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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yutaka YAMAGATA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1743

Application No.: 09/674,304

Examiner: B. GORDON

Filed: August 6, 2001

Docket No.: 107734

For: LIQUID TREATING EQUIPMENT INCLUDING A STORAGE VESSEL AND A DISCHARGE VESSEL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, Notice of Allowance or other action that closes prosecution (e.g., Quayle Action).
- ☒ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☒ 2. References 1 and 2 were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign office action is attached for the Examiner's information.



3. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(ii), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: January 25, 2006

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Sheet 1 of 1Form PTO-1449  
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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY DOCKET NO.  
107734APPLICATION NO.  
09/674,304

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT(S)  
Yutaka YAMAGATA et al.FILING DATE  
August 6, 2001GROUP  
1743

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner<br>Initials | Cite<br>No. | Document Number | Date       | Name       |
|----------------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|------------|
|                      | 1.          | 2,798,228       | 07-09-1957 | BOESTER    |
|                      | 2.          | 4,123,365       | 10-31-1978 | MIDDELBECK |
|                      |             |                 |            |            |
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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner<br>Initials | Cite<br>No. | Document Number | Date | Country | With<br>English<br>Abstract | With<br>English<br>Translation |
|----------------------|-------------|-----------------|------|---------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
|                      |             |                 |      |         |                             |                                |
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|                      |             |                 |      |         |                             |                                |
|                      |             |                 |      |         |                             |                                |

## OTHER DOCUMENTS

| Examiner<br>Initials | Cite<br>No. | (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) |
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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Date: January 25, 2006